#### **Initiative Name:**

# **Healthy Kids and MI-Child Programs**

# **Initiative Description:**

The Balanced Budget Act of 1997 created the State Child Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) to provide health insurance coverage to children in working families that could not afford to purchase coverage on their own but did not qualify for Medicaid. SCHIP makes coverage available to families with incomes less than 200% of the federal poverty level or families with incomes greater than 50% of the state's Medicaid eligibility threshold. States had three options for designing their state programs: expand their Medicaid program; create a separate program; or a blend of the first two options. Michigan chose a blend of options. The Michigan program expands Medicaid (Healthy Kids) to all children up to age 19 in families with incomes up to 150% of the federal poverty level, and offers a coverage plan (MIChild) to families with incomes between 150% and 200% of poverty. From May, 1998 to May, 2003, enrollment into Healthy Kids increased from 164,190 to 348,912. Enrollment in MIChild was 36,294 as of January 2004

## **Expected Outcomes:**

#### Administration Goals Attained:

- Fewer children in Michigan will be uninsured
- Lead poisoned children will be identified and linked to care

### Other Benefits and Outcomes:

Improved Immunization rates

## **Progress to date:**

• Healthy Kids and MIChild continue to experience significant increases in enrollment.